

CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850-245-2112, DEPNews@FloridaDEP.gov

## Piney Point Update - Sept. 2, 2022

The court-appointed receiver and its contractor, Forgen, LLC, have begun initial closure work at the at the OGS-South compartment. Contractors are grading and shaping the area so that it will no longer accumulate rainwater and eliminate the need for future rainwater releases to Port Manatee.

DEP will continue performing its stringent regulatory oversight of the facility to ensure this is the last chapter in the long history of Piney Point. DEP is committed to working with the receiver to ensure that progress toward closure is done as expeditiously as possible.

## Key status updates and response activities (bolded and underlined language reflects changes):

- The site received <u>0.74 inches</u> of rain this week. Piney Point has received approximately <u>34.44 inches</u> of rain since Jan. 1, 2022. In response to rain events, clean, non-contact stormwater will be conveyed as needed through the site's permitted outfall along Buckeye Road. Samples are collected at the permitted outfall during runoff events to confirm the stormwater meets the requirements of its permit.
- The current storage capacity for additional rainfall at the site is approximately 27.4 inches. This
  capacity is expected to change with rainfall amounts, as well as adjusted water management
  activities at the site.
- As part of the site's water management efforts, piping of water to the North Regional Water Reclamation Facility resumed Thursday, Sept. 2, 2021, and to date, <u>33,725,585 gallons</u> have been transferred. Spray evaporation also continues in the NGS-North compartment and a secondary evaporation system was installed at the site to aid in water removal efforts.
- Approximately <u>261 million gallons</u> are currently held within the NGS-South compartment. Pond level readings are expected to fluctuate due to a host of factors, including wind/associated waves in the pond, rainfall and water management activities.
- To begin the closure work of the OGS-South, the court-appointed receiver completed removal of the rainwater from the pond that has accumulated over the last several months. Rainwater removal began on Aug. 13, 2022, and concluded early on Thursday, Aug. 25, 2022. Background and future sampling data can be found on <a href="DEP's webpage">DEP's webpage</a>.

Residents can find the latest information on the status of the site, response activities and water quality at <a href="mailto:ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/PineyPointUpdate">ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/PineyPointUpdate</a>.

https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/FLDEP/bulletins/32af70c